

SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting

December 18, 2003

10:00 AM

Room 221, Blatt Bldg.

Members Present: Mr. Staton, Mr. A. Martin, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. Daniel, Mr. Drew, Senator Fair, Senator Giese, Mrs. Hoag, Mr. Lightsey, Mrs. Marlowe, Mr. Martin, Mr. Stowe, Superintendent Tenenbaum, Rep. Walker, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Wilson

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Mr. Staton welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He indicated that Council on Excellence in Education (SC Chamber of Commerce), Representative Lourie and Representative Townsend were meeting with the EOC during the morning portion of the agenda for the discussion of school finance.
- II. **Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes of November 20, 2003, were approved as distributed.
- III. **Discussion of the Funding Model:** Mr. Staton reminded members and guests of the EOC's interest in funding instruction to achieve the 2010 goals and the questions that arose during the July 2003 retreat. Dr. Anderson presented information on the model developed by the EOC staff using a review of the statutory and regulatory requirements and the student achievement profile. EOC members and others asked a number of questions and discussed issues raised in the model.

The meeting was recessed for lunch.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

- A. **Academic Standards and Assessments:** Mr. Wilson reported on behalf of the Subcommittee.
 - (1) Recommendations to the State Department of Education Concerning the End-of-Course Assessments: Reports of the studies conducted on the end-of-course assessments in Physical Science, Biology, and English I were reviewed as well as the recommendations. Representatives of the State Department of Education had accepted the recommendations prior to the meeting; therefore, the EOC approved the assessments for implementation;
 - (2) Recommendations to the General Assembly Regarding the Use of NAEP instead of a norm-referenced test: The EOC discussed a request from the State Department of Education to recommend an amendment

to the Education Accountability Act to delete the requirement to administer a norm-referenced test to a sample of students in three grades annually. Information from the norm-referenced test would be replaced with information from the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The motion was approved.

(3) Mr. Wilson shared information on the per pupil expenditures of schools at various ratings levels and the changes in expenditures across the three years.

- B. **EIA and Improvement Mechanisms:** Mr. Stowe reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. He outlined the recommendations regarding funding of technical assistance and other EIA programs. He proposed an amendment to the proviso addressing funding for teacher specialists to permit unallocated funds to go directly to the teacher salary supplement. Members discussed the impact on programs, particularly the funding of teacher specialists and professional development on the standards. After lengthy discussion the EOC amended the proposed proviso to provide that \$6 million would be provided for professional development on the standards and the remaining teacher specialist funds would be used for that program or "alternate research-based technical assistance strategies approved by the EOC." Mrs. Marlowe, on behalf of the Parent and Community Involvement Subcommittee, requested a proviso to provide that family literacy funds could be used only in districts implementing comprehensive programs. The members discussed the nature of comprehensive programs. The budget recommendations, as amended, were approved.
- C. **Parent and Community Involvement:** The Subcommittee had no report.
- D. **Public Awareness:** Mr. Alex Martin reported on behalf of the Subcommittee.
- E. **Administration Subcommittee:** Mr. Staton indicated that the Subcommittee had not met but was presenting the eight recommendations to enhance the technical assistance program. Dr. Anderson reviewed the recommendations. The EOC approved the recommendations.

Having no other business, the EOC adjourned at 2:15 p.m.